

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 DOE-15 DOTE-00
SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 H-01
INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05
ICA-11 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /138 W
-----100879 282357Z /64

R 282326Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0865
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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STATE PASS OES/NET FOR PROCHNIK, EB/ORF/FSE FOR
ROSEN, EUR/RPE FOR LAASE, DOE FOR SIEVERING,
VANDERRYN, R. SCHULZ

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, OECD
SUBJ: FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN JOINTLY SPONSORED
DOE/IEA MEETING OF EXPERTS ON AUTOMOTIVE PROPULSION

1. SUMMARY - AT THE INVITATION OF DOE, FRANCE
PARTICIPATED ALONG WITH SEVERAL MAJOR IEA COUNTRIES
IN A RECENT LONDON MEETING CO-HOSTED BY DOE AND IEA
TO DISCUSS A POSSIBLE R&D PROJECT ON ADVANCED AUTO-
MOTIVE PROPULSION SYSTEMS. FRENCH TECHNICAL REP-
RESENTATIVES, WHO ATTENDED LONDON MEETING WITH
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KNOWLEDGE OF FOREIGN MINISTRY, INDICATED STRONG
INTEREST IN ATTENDING NEXT MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT
IN SEPTEMBER, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN PARIS UNDER
SOLE SPONSORSHIP OF IEA AND ON BASIS OF A DRAFT IEA
IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT. SO FAR AS WE KNOW, THIS
IS THE CLOSEST THE FRENCH HAVE COME TO EXPRESSING
CONCRETE INTEREST IN A SPECIFIC IEA R&D PROJECT.

END SUMMARY.

2. DOE AND IEA COHOSTED A MEETING OF EXPERTS ON HIGH TEMPERATURE CERAMIC MATERIALS FOR AUTOMOTIVE PROPULSION SYSTEMS IN LONDON ON APRIL 14, 1978. INVITATIONS TO PARTICIPATE WERE SENT OUT BY DOE'S DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION ENERGY CONSERVATION TO THE FRG, U.K., FRANCE, ITALY, SWEDEN, THE NETHERLANDS AND JAPAN. SEPARATE INVITATIONS WERE ALSO SENT OUT BY THE IEA TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE IEA COMMITTEE ON ENERGY R&D (CERD) AND TO MEMBERS OF THE CERD WORKING PARTY ON CONSERVATION. THE MEETING, WHICH WAS AN OUTGROWTH OF A NATO/CCMS STUDY FOR WHICH THE U.S. WAS THE LEAD COUNTRY, WAS CONVENED TO DISCUSS PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF CERAMIC MATERIALS FOR AUTOMOTIVE APPLICATIONS. ALTHOUGH DOE'S INVITATION INCLUDED A COPY OF A PROPOSED PROGRAM IN THE FORM OF A DRAFT IEA IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT, IT LEFT OPEN THE FRAMEWORK UNDER WHICH THE EFFORT WOULD BE CARRIED OUT.

3. THE MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY DELEGATES OF THE FRG, SWEDEN, JAPAN, FRANCE, THE U.K., ITALY AND THE U.S. WHEN IT BECAME APPARENT THAT NOT ALL COUNTRIES WERE CURRENTLY DEVELOPING CERAMIC MATERIALS FOR AUTOMOTIVE APPLICATIONS, IT WAS DECIDED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BROADEN THE SCOPE OF POTENTIAL COOPERATION TO ENCOMPASS HIGH TEMPERATURE CERAMIC MATERIALS FOR "ENERGY CONSERVATION APPLICATIONS" INSTEAD OF THE MORE NARROWLY DEFINED "AUTOMOTIVE PROPULSION SYSTEMS." ALL COUNTRIES PRESENT EXPRESSED INTEREST IN A COOPERATIVE EFFORT BUT AT THE SAME TIME NOTED THAT FURTHER STUDY OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL WOULD BE REQUIRED. NO ADDITIONAL PROPOSALS WERE MADE.

4. THE ITALIAN, U.K. AND FRENCH REPRESENTATIVES INDICATED THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS DID NOT YET HAVE NATIONAL PROGRAMS IN THE SPECIFIC AREA OF HIGH TEMPERATURE CERAMICS FOR PROPULSION APPLICATIONS.

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SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 DOTE-00 /138 W
-----100821 282356Z /64

R 282326Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0866

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

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THE ITALIAN DELEGATE, HOWEVER, BELIEVED THAT FIAT WAS SPONSORING R&D IN THIS AREA AND WOULD BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE FOR ITALY. THE U.K. AND FRANCE ARE BOTH EVALUATING THEIR NATIONAL PROGRAMS WITH POTENTIAL OF EXPANSION INTO THIS FIELD. THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH STATED THAT FRENCH INDUSTRY (PEUGEOT AND RENAULT) INTEND TO DECIDE BY SEPTEMBER AS TO WHETHER A CERAMIC GAS TURBINE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BUT THAT IF THEIR DECISION WAS NEGATIVE, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WOULD BECOME INVOLVED INSTEAD (ON THE ORDER OF \$2 MILLION).

5. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EXPERT GROUP WAS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 14-15, 1978 IN PARIS. THIS WOULD
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ALLOW TIME FOR FRANCE AND THE U.K. TO FURTHER DEVELOP THEIR NATIONAL PROGRAMS. THIS MEETING WOULD BE UNDER THE SOLE SPONSORSHIP OF IEA. IT IS EXPECTED THAT GOVERNMENTS AND INDUSTRIES WILL BE READY TO MAKE COMMITMENTS AT THAT TIME. THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ATTENDING THIS MEETING.

6. COMMENT: AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THIS IS THE CLOSEST THE FRENCH HAVE COME TO EXPRESSING CONCRETE INTEREST IN A SPECIFIC IEA R&D PROJECT. ALTHOUGH SPONSORSHIP OF THIS MEETING WAS MIXED, IEA SECRETARIAT TOOK CARE TO ASSURE THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS AWARE OF FRENCH PARTICIPATION AND THAT ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE WAS AN IEA IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT. THREE FRENCHMEN ATTENDED: M. LAFONT (RENAULT), M.MARTY (PEUGEOT) AND M. CLAUDE LAMURE (INSTITUTE DE RECHERCHE DES TRANSPORTS). M. LAMURE TOLD DOE REPRESENTATIVE THAT HE IS VERY INTERESTED IN COOPERATION IN THE AREAS DISCUSSED AND IS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE SEPTEMBER MEETING.

SALZMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, MEETING DELEGATIONS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, PROPULSION SYSTEMS, AUTOMOBILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS13976
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780183-0125
Format: TEL
From: PARIS USOECD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978045/aaaaadie.tel
Line Count: 185
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cb5688ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2945571
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN JOINTLY SPONSORED DOE/IEA MEETING OF EXPERTS ON AUTOMOTIVE PROPULSION
TAGS: ENRG, FR, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cb5688ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014